

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

August 4, 2009

The Edgefield County Council held its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, August 4, 2009, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Rodney Ashcraft, Councilman
Genia Blackwell, Councilwoman
Norman Dorn, Councilman

Others present

John W. Pettigrew, Jr., County Administrator
Michael S. Medlock, County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council
and others as per list attached

Others absent

Lynn Strom, Finance Manager

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and the administrator gave the invocation, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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Motion was made by Councilman Bright , seconded by Councilman Dorn , to approve the July 7, 2009 Minutes of the Edgefield County Council Meeting, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

No comments.

Ordinances

The chairman asked for a vote to reconsider first reading of Ordinance No. 08-09-609, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax Map #126-00-03-006-000 from General-Agricultural Development (GD) to Industrial Development (ID)." Councilman Dorn made the motion to reconsider the Hagler property to be put back on the agenda, seconded by Councilman Bright. Motion carried to reconsider first reading of Ordinance No. 08-09-609 with Councilman Ashcraft and Councilwoman Blackwell opposing.

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Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 08-09-609, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax Map #126-00-03-006-000 from General-Agricultural Development (GD) to Industrial Development (ID)." Motion carried with Councilman Ashcraft and Councilwoman Blackwell opposing.

The chairman asked for a vote to reconsider first reading of Ordinance No. 08-09-610, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax Map #126-00-03-007-000 from Residential-Agricultural Development (RD) to Limited Commercial (LC)." Motion was made by Councilman Dorn to reconsider the Hagler property to be placed back on the agenda, seconded by Councilman Bright. Motion carried with Councilman Ashcraft and Councilwoman Blackwell opposing.

Motion to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 08-09-610, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax Map #126-00-03-007-000 from Residential-Agricultural Development (RD) to Limited Commercial (LC)", was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried with Councilman Ashcraft and Councilwoman Blackwell opposing.

Motion to approve the third and final reading, as amended, for the purchase price of \$315,000, of Ordinance No. 07-08-598, "An Ordinance Providing for the Purchase of a Certain Tract of Property With All Improvements Thereon Located at 206 Penn Street in the Town of Edgefield, SC, Currently Occupied by Calliham TV and Furniture and Being Designated on the Map of the Tax Assessor of Edgefield County as Tax Parcel #137-03-03-024-000" was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried with Councilman Ashcraft and Councilwoman Blackwell opposing.

First and second reading of Ordinance No. 097-08-598 was approved for the purchase price of \$425,000 and the amended ordinance for third reading reflects the purchase price of \$315,000.00.

Resolutions

Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to approve Resolution No. 09-10-313, "A Resolution Commending Philip Bell for Taking Action to Help Fight Crime in Edgefield County." Motion carried unanimously. At this time the chairman presented Mr. Bell with the framed resolution, and also thanked Mr. Bell for his assistance.

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Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to approve Resolution No. 09-10-314, "A Resolution Commending Jamie Tyler for Taking Action to Help Fight Crime in Edgefield County." Motion carried unanimously. At this time the chairman presented Mr. Tyler with the framed resolution, and also thanked Mr. Tyler for his help. Chairman Kneece also acknowledged the assistance of sheriff deputies involved in the capture of the suspected burglar.

The approval of Resolution No. 09-10-315, "Ratification of Resolution No. 05-06-286 Cable Television Franchise Renewal" was unanimous by a motion made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft. Resolution No. 05-06-286 was tabled by Council at their October 4, 2005 meeting and, according to council minutes, was not taken off the table and approved. Northland Cable has been sending an annul check to Edgefield County for franchise fees and their payments are current.

New Business

Utility and Telecom audit proposal

Mr. John Taylor, CEO with AuditHead, addressed council explaining his company's services. They look at all utility bills for errors that could mean a refund or credit and also they look to see if rates could be reduced going forward. AuditHead has been selected by the State of South Carolina as its primary telecom utility auditor so most of the state agencies are being audited and Edgefield County would be under the state contract. One Hundred percent savings have been found. If no problems are found the county is under no obligation. If problems are found AuditHead will receive 30% of refunds. Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Bright to approve the services of AuditHead. Motion carried unanimously.

New bar operating hours

Mr. Ron Cales, Woody's Bar & Grill (located on Hwy 25, south), addressed council concerning the ordinance council passed at the July 7th council meeting that reflected closing hours for bars/clubs in Edgefield County and asked his councilman to call for a re-consideration of this ordinance. He asked council, if nothing else, to consider a grandfather-ship at least on Friday and Saturday nights and he would even waive the right to open at all on Sundays. Council received this request as information and the chairman stated they would look into it (request).

Mr. Steve Glinski, as resident of the Woody's Bar & Grill area, spoke in favor of the recently passed ordinance.

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Hospital Board

The Edgefield County Hospital Board has requested the council to consider the appointment of Keith Lynn to fill the unexpired three year term of Jack Tiller on the Hospital Board of Trustees. Mr. Tiller's term ends January 2012. Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to appoint Keith Lynn to this seat. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Northside Park restroom

Rev. Gordon informed council the church is willing to have DHEC do another perk test on land adjacent to the Park. If the soil would perk this would allow a permanent restroom facility to be built rather than a self contained (vault) restroom facility. The administrator will contact DHEC for another perk test.

Architect fees

The administrator stated that council voted to negotiate with 2km architects and two different proposals from the 2km have been received: (1) the July 15th proposal on the Railroad Street site and (2) the July 29th proposal concerning the Calliham building. Each phase would be on a basis of prior approval by council before continuing from one phase to the next phase. Motion to accept the July 29th architect proposal was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried with Councilman Ashcraft opposing.

Administrator's Report

Recreation Department will hold a football camp this Friday and Saturday for the county youth at the county park. Football and soccer registration will begin this month – September 12 the football season kicks off with the annual jamboree.

The Department of Juvenile Justice is sponsoring a community service day in Edgefield County on September 12th. Juveniles from around the county will be working on a community service project. They have chosen to beautify the area at Highway 25 and 430 intersection and the local director for the Juvenile Justice will be at our next meeting to ask the county to declare that day as *Community Service Day* for all members of the community.

The county employee food drive concluded this past Friday after two weeks. It was well received – approximately 500-600 pounds of food that will go to needy persons/families in this county.

The 2010 Complete Count Census Committee will be holding its first meeting this Thursday at 5:00 at the Library if anyone would like to attend.

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Guests

Several individuals supporting Woody's Bar & Grill signed to speak but left after Mr. Cales addressed council.

Comments from public

Roy Blackwell addressed the chairman concerning the purchase of the Calliham building – what was the deciding factor that caused the decision to purchase the Calliham property and the possible costs for renovation.

Claims approved as follows:

A. PAYROLL: 6/29/09 thru 7/12/09

Regular.....\$232,548.37

B. PAYROLL: 7/13/09 thru 7/26/09

Regular.....\$220,894.36

B. General Operating.....\$864,065.68

No Executive Session.

There being no further business, Councilman made the motion to adjourn. The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1st, in the council chambers.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

Rodney Ashcraft, Councilman

Regenia Blackwell, Councilwoman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

